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DE RUEHWN #0656 1441454  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 241454Z MAY 07  
FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4780  
INFO RUCNCOM/EC CARICOM COLLECTIVE  
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 1737  
RUMIAAA/HQ USSOUTHCOM J2 MIAMI FL  
RUMIAAA/HQ USSOUTHCOM J5 MIAMI FL  
RUEHCV/USDAO CARACAS VE

UNCLAS BRIDGETOWN 000656

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

STATE FOR WHA/CAR AND INL  
SOUTHCOM ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [PINR](#) [ASEC](#) [SNAR](#) [BB](#) [XL](#)

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR OURISMAN'S MEETING WITH BARBADOS CHIEF  
JUSTICE SIR DAVID SIMMONS

¶1. (SBU) Summary: In a May 16 introductory meeting with Ambassador Mary Ourisman, Barbados Chief Justice Sir David Anthony Cathcart Simmons expressed appreciation for U.S. support to the Barbadian judicial branch over the years. Simmons spoke fondly of his working relationship with previous U.S. ambassadors. End Summary.

¶2. (SBU) Ambassador Ourisman congratulated Barbados on a successful and safe Cricket World Cup (CWC). Simmons, who is a former cricket player, noted that CWC provided an excellent example of international cooperation with law enforcement officers coming from as far away as South Africa and the temporary creation of the CARICOM Single Domestic Space.

¶3. (SBU) Simmons thanked the United States for providing equipment and technical support to Barbados' criminal courts, which enabled Barbados to upgrade to computer-aided dictation and replace handwritten transcripts. He praised in particular the efforts of former Ambassador Jeanette W. Hyde, who worked on this project with Simmons when he was Attorney General. Simmons also brought up the "Partnership for Prosperity" agreement, signed in Bridgetown by President Clinton in 1997, during Simmons' tenure in PM Arthur's cabinet. (Note: This agreement is also known as the Bridgetown Declaration. End Note.) Ambassador Ourisman briefed him on the United States' latest cooperative efforts with the region, including CWC-related assistance, the launch of the State Partnership Program, and the upcoming June Conference on the Caribbean.

¶5. (SBU) BIO NOTE: Sir David Anthony Cathcart Simmons was born on April 28, 1940. (Note: This is the same date as Barbados statesman and founder of the Barbados Labour Party, Grantley Adams. Adams was born on April 28, 1898. End Note.) Before Simmons became Chief Justice in 2002, he was a member of parliament for 25 years and was acting Prime Minister on several occasions between 1994 and 2000.

#### Education

--Wesley Hall Boys' School (Barbados): 1945 to 1947  
--St. Philip's Boys' School (Barbados): 1948 to 1950  
--Lodge School (Barbados): 1950 to 1960  
--London School of Economics and Political Science: 1960 to 1965  
--Lincoln's Inn: 1964 to 1969  
--Council of Legal Education: 1968 to 1969

#### Political Experience

--Member of Parliament, St. Philip North: 1976 to 1981  
--Senator: 1981 to 1985  
--Member of Parliament, St. Thomas: 1985 to 2001

#### Positions of Responsibility

--Chairman, National Housing Corporation: 1976 to 1979  
--Chairman, Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation: 1979 to 1981  
--Chairman, National Sports Council: 1981 to 1985  
--Attorney General: 1985  
--Attorney General and Minister of Home Affairs: 1994 to 2001  
--Chief Justice, Barbados Supreme Court: 2002 to present.  
OURISMAN